

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 PRS-01

PA-01 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00

AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 HUD-01

HEW-04 INT-05 /118 W

-----261517Z 052444 /46

R 251321Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 789

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 NEW DELHI 1179

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EIND, IN

SUBJ: UNIDO MINISTERIAL MEETING, NEW DELHI

1. SUMMARY: INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND UNIDO WERE CO-SPONSORS OF AN INFORMAL MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING ON COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH MET IN NEW DELHI JANUARY 4-8. THE GOI USED THE OCCASION FOR A HARD-SELL ON THE MERITS OF INDIAN GOODS AND SERVICES FOR MEETING THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF OTHER LDC'S THROUGH INDUSTRIALIZATION. GIVEN THIS FOCUS, THERE WAS LITTLE IN THE WAY OF GROUP OF 77-STYLE POLEMICS. INDIA'S EFFORTS TO PUSH THROUGH ITS OWN PREFERRED CONCLUSIONS AND ESTABLISH A FAIRLY CONCRETE FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM WERE FRUSTRATED BY OTHER PARTICIPANTS, RESULTING IN CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS THAT ARE MERELY HORTATORY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT HOSTED AN INFORMAL "ROUND TABLE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES" IN NEW DELHI JANUARY 4 TO 8. THE MEETING WAS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY

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UNIDO, WHICH ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED WITH SUBMISSION OF A BACKGROUND DOCUMENT AND THE PRESENCE OF ITS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ABDEL RAHMAN KHANE. SEVENTEEN COUNTRIES SENT REPRESENTATIVES IN RESPONSE TO INVITATIONS FROM THE GOI, THIRTEEN OF WHICH WERE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. LIST OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IS GIVEN IN PARAGRAPH 7 BELOW.

3. ACCORDING TO CONCLUSIONS ADOPTED ON THE FINAL DAYS, THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING WAS TO "EXPLORE IN A CONCRETE WAY AVENUES OF COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES." INDIAN HOSTS WERE MOST EAGER TO AVOID IDEOLOGICAL POLEMICS AND KEEP DISCUSSIONS AT A PRACTICAL LEVEL. DIRECTION WHICH GOI GAVE TO MEETING SOON REVEALED AN EFFORT TO SELL INDIAN GOODS AND SERVICES TO THEIR LESS DEVELOPED COLLEAGUES. INDIANS PREPARED PAMPHLETS DESCRIBING GOI EXPERIENCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES. EACH PAMPHLET CONCLUDED WITH A SECTION ON HOW INDIA WAS WILLING TO "SHARE ITS CAPACITY AND CAPABILITIES" IN SPECIFIC AREAS OF "COOPERATION". SUBSTANTIVE PORTIONS OF THE MEETING WERE DOMINATED BY INDIAN CHAIRMAN, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES T.A. PAI, AND OTHER INDIAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN. ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE, PAI DID NOT HESITATE TO INTERRUPT AT ANY POINT TO DESCRIBE INDIAN SUCCESSES IN DEALING WITH DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS REFERRED TO BY OTHER SPEAKERS. TWO OF THE FIVE DAYS OF THE MEETING WERE SPENT VISITING MAJOR INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS IN DYNAMIC PROVINCIAL CENTER OF BANGALORE. GROUP ALSO VISITED INDUSTRIAL FAIR IN DELHI. LUNCHEONS AND DINNERS WERE ARRANGED WITH INDIAN MANUFACTURING REPRESENTATIVES.

4. RESULTS FROM INDIAN POINT OF VIEW MAY HAVE HAD AN ELEMENT OF OVERKILL. IT IS PROBABLY TRUE THAT MOST PARTICIPANTS WERE, IN THE WORDS OF THE CONCLUSIONS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS" OF INDIAN INDUSTRIALIZATION AND "IMPRESSED BY THE RATIONAL AND INTEGRATED MANNER" IN WHICH INDIAN CAPACILITIES WERE "PROMOTED AND ORGANIZED". NONETHELESS, GOI'S PLAN TO HAVE MEETING REACH CONCRETE DECISIONS FAVORABLE TO ITS INTEREST WERE FRUSTRATED. PAI TABLED DRAFT CONCLUSIONS IN THE CLOSING MINUTES OF THE LAST DAY OF THE MEETING, BUT RESISTENCE TO THEM CAUSED CONFERENCE TO BE EXTENDED FOR THREE HOURS WHILE TEXT WAS REVISED FROM THE FLOOR.

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 L-03  
FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05  
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02  
SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 INT-05 HUD-01  
HEW-04 PRS-01 PA-01 /118 W  
-----261533Z 041803 /46

R 251321Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASS NEW DELHI  
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INDIANS HAD WISHED TO HAVE CONFERENCE IDENTIFY ONLY  
THREE AREAS AS "REQUIRING ATTENTION AND ACTION":  
ELECTRONICS, PHARMACEUTICALS AND NONCONVENTIONAL OSOURCES  
OF ENERGY. OTHER PARTICIPANTS RATHER SAW THESE AS AREAS  
"WHICH MAY BE PURSUED," AND THEN ADDED FERTILIZERS AND  
AGRO-CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, AND DELETED THE  
REFERENCE TO "NON-CONVENTIONAL" WITH REGARD TO ENERGY.  
HARD FEELINGS ABOUT INDIAN MANIPULATION OF CONFERENCE  
RESULTS WERE HEIGHTENED BY THE FACT THAT KHANE AND PAI  
BOTH HELD NEWS CONFERNCES BASED ON INDIAN PROPOSED  
DRAFT BEFORE TEXT WAS DISCUSSED, AMENDED AND ADOPTED.

5. GOI AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS WE HAVE TALKED TO SEE  
NO CONCRETE FOLLOW-UP SPECIFICALLY ESTABLISHED, DESPITE  
EARLY INDIAN EFFORT TO PROJECT DEFINITE MACHINERY.  
PARTICIPANTS IN MEETING CONCLUDED THAT IT HAD BEEN USEFUL  
AND THAT OTHER ROUND TABLES SHOULD BE HELD. BRAZILIAN  
AND EGYPTIAN DELEGATES WERE QUOTED AS OFFERING TO HOT  
FURTHER SUCH MEETINGS BUT IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT TIMING  
AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS ARE STILL TO BE WORKED OUT BY  
PROSPECTIVE HOSTS WITH UNIDO. MEETING REJECTED INDIAN  
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PROPOSALS TO CONSIDER THIS MEETING'S PARTICIPANTS AS  
"FOUNDING MEMBERS" AND TO HAVE EXPERTS FORMULATE  
"SPECIFIC PROPOSALS" FOR DECISIONS AT NEXT ROUND TABLE.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KHANE TOLD PRESS THAT MEETING HAD  
CALLED FOR UNIDO SUPPORT FOR "CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE"  
IN THREE PRIORITY FIELDS IDENTIFIED IN DRAFT CONCLUSIONS.  
HE IMPLIED THAT UNIDO SECRETARIAT WOULD PURSUE THIS  
ENDEAVOR, BUT TEXT OF CONCLUSIONS OF MEETING REFER  
ONLY TO "EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF COOPERATIVE FUNDING

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNIDO." POSSIBILITY REMAINS THAT  
GOI ITSELF WILL SEEK TO HAVE ROUND TABLE CONCLUSIONS  
ENDORSED BY APPROPRIATE UNIDO BODY.

6. TEXT OF SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS WILL BE FURNISHED TO  
DEPARTMENT AND AMERICAN EMBASSY VIENNA.

7. IN ADDITION TO HOST, MINISTERIAL-LEVEL DELEGATIONS  
ATTENDED FROM AFGHANISTAN, ALGERIA, EGYPT, BULGARIA  
(HOST OF SIMILAR ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER 1975),  
IRAQ, LIBYA, MALAYSIA, NIGERIA, PERU (AS HOST OF LIMA  
CONFERENCE), SRI LANKA, TANZANIA, UGANDA AND ZAMBIA.  
ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, PAKISTAN AND ZAIRE WERE REPRESENTED  
BY MEMBERS OF THEIR RESIDENT EMBASSIES. ACCORDING TO  
EARLY PRESS REPORTS, INVITATIONS HAD ALSO BEEN EXTENDED  
TO FIJI, GUYANA, INDONESIA, IRAN, KUWAIT, PHILIPPINES,  
UAE AND VENEZUELA. (INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT, OF  
EIGHT REGRETS, FIVE WERE OPEC MEMBERS.)

8. COMMENT: INDIA IS NORMALLY A GRACIOUS AND EFFECTIVE  
HOST FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND THIS MEETING IN  
GENERAL SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN NO EXCEPTION. THEY SEEM TO  
HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT CARRIED AWAY BY THEIR ZEAL TO PRO-  
MOTE EXPORTS, HOWEVER, BUT THE TARGET AUDIENCE, LARGELY  
AFRICAN AND ASIAN TRADING PARTNERS, IS LIKELY TO LET  
HEAVY HANDED CONFERENCE PROCEDURES BE FORGOTTEN, AND  
MAINLY RECALL THE VISUAL EVIDENCE OF INDIAN INDUSTRIAL  
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CAPABILITIES. NO CONTENTIOUS NORTH-SOUTH OR NIEO  
ISSUES WERE DEBATED AT MEETING, IN PART BECAUSE PARTICI-  
PANTS WERE FROM MINISTRIES OF INDUSTRIES, WITHOUT  
ADVISERS FROM THEIR UN DELEGATIONS.  
SCHNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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